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(16) CHINA - WEST GERMANY: Expanding Technological Ties

China is using a new five-year technical cooperation agreement with West Germany, which was signed earlier this month during the visit of President Carstens to Beijing, to show its displeasure with US restrictions on technology transfer. According to West German officials, Politburo member Deng Xiaoping told Carstens that he found West European countries and Japan more receptive than the US to China's requests for advanced technology. The new agreement--worth about \$20 million annually--will provide greatly expanded scientific and technological cooperation in coal development, agriculture, management, and quality control, and it will help to increase West German exports to China.

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Comment: The agreement is in line with China's efforts to reduce its dependence on any one country for its technology needs. By publicizing their success in securing scientific and technical assistance from Western Europe, the Chinese also are suggesting the US may lose trade and other economic advantages if it maintains its restrictions on the export of advanced technology.

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